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8 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
9 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

10 In re

11 THE DEATH OF ATTORNEY
12 WILLIAM MESSER

ORDER

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14 The undersigned Chief Bankruptcy Judge of the above-entitled Court finds as follows:

15 1. William Messer ("Messer"), a member of the bar of the State of Washington, died on April
16 12, 2004.

17 2. At the time of his death, Messer was attorney of record for debtors in approximately 492
18 cases ("Messer's cases") pending in this Court, including the following:

19 Chapter 13: 218 Tacoma
20 236 Seattle

21 Chapter 7: 18 Tacoma
22 15 Seattle

23 Adversary
24 Proceedings: 5 Seattle.

25 3. The Chapter 13 Trustees are currently holding and accruing funds due to Messer pursuant
26 to confirmed Chapter 13 plans.

27 4. The Court has not been advised of any probate or intestate administration pending relating
28 to Messer's estate.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, and pursuant to the Court's authority to protect the interests of
all parties in interest and ensure the expeditious administration of cases pending before it, it is ORDERED as
follows:

a. The Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington shall, in each of Messer's cases, mail to the debtors and, in pending adversary proceedings, to all parties thereto, a notice informing the debtors and parties of Messer's death and their rights to obtain substitute counsel, and further recommending them to the appropriate Bar Associations for Tacoma/Pierce County and King County, for referrals from their respective lists of volunteers.

b. The Chapter 13 Trustees shall segregate and hold any funds payable to Messer pursuant to confirmed Chapter 13 plans until further order of this Court upon motion of the Trustee, duly appointed personal representative, or substitute attorney.

c. No order authorizing the substitution of counsel in place of Messer shall allocate fees between his estate and new counsel.

d. The Clerk of the above-entitled Court shall mail notice of this Order to Messer's heirs, to the extent they can be identified by reasonable efforts, and to the Washington State Bar Association.

Dated: 21 April 2004 at Seattle, Washington.

THB-w

PHILIP H. BRANDT
CHIEF JUDGE